



22nd Annual

Rockville

**PUBLIC
SAFETY
AWARDS**

June 8, 2011

Explanation of Awards

Citation for Bravery

The Citation for Bravery shall be presented to a member who performed an act of bravery which was beyond the call of duty, wherein the member's physical safety was perilously exposed to danger in order to save the life of another or to perform an extraordinary and heroic public safety duty.

Distinguished Service Citation

The Distinguished Service Citation shall be presented to a member who has rendered a service beyond the ordinary call of duty. It shall recognize those incidents wherein the member's diligence, perseverance, or timely judgment in the performance of their duties resulted in the accomplishment of a difficult task, the protection of life or property, the prevention of a major crime, or the apprehension of an armed and dangerous criminal.

Meritorious Service Citation

When service rendered by a member does not fall within the guidelines of the medal of valor or citation for bravery or distinguished service, yet the board shall be of the opinion that some special acknowledgment should be made thereof, the Meritorious Service Citation may be presented.

Community Service Award

The Rockville Public Safety Community Service Award is given in recognition of exemplary community service and an unwavering commitment to keeping the community safe and making it a better place to live and work.

Sponsored By:

Crime Solvers of Montgomery County, Md., Inc.
Montgomery Masonic Lodge #195
Optimist Club of Rockville
Rockville American Legion Post #86
Rockville Kiwanis Club
Rockville Lions Club
Rockville Rotary Club
Twinbrook Citizens Association
Washington Rockville Elks Lodge #15

In Cooperation With:

City of Rockville
Rockville Chamber of Commerce
The Rockville Gazette

Past Program Chairs:

1990	John Freeland	Rockville Chamber of Commerce
1991	Kay Mitchel	Lioness Club
1992	Stan Sheltra	Rockville Elks Lodge 2296
1993	Dennis Kelly	Rockville Rotary Club
1994	Donald Frear	Montgomery Masonic Lodge # 195
1995	Thelma O'Connell	American Legion Post # 86
1996	Bert Boline	Rockville Optimist Club
1997	John Tyner II	Rockville Kiwanis
1998	John Tyner II	Twinbrook Citizens Association
1999	John Tyner II	Rockville Chamber of Commerce
2000	Linda Warren	Rockville Lions Club
2001	Priscilla Ann Schwab	Washington Rockville Elks Clubs
2002	Charles May	Rockville Rotary Club
2003	Donald Frear	Montgomery Masonic Lodge #195
2004	David Collins	American Legion Post #86
2005	John Tyner II	Kiwanis Club of Rockville
2006	Jim Adams	Rockville Optimist Club
2007	John Tyner II	Twinbrook Citizens Association
2008	Craig S. Cano	Rockville Lions Club
2009	Jeff Cantrell	Rockville Chamber of Commerce
2010	Arthur Walker	Washington-Rockville Elks, Lodge #15

22nd Annual Rockville Public Safety Awards

June 8, 2011

PROGRAM

Welcome and Introductions	Eileen McGuckian Rockville Rotary Club Program Chairman
Presentation of the Colors	Lt. Alan Rawlins Captain of the Color Guard, Rockville City Police
Pledge of Allegiance.....	Eileen McGuckian
Patriotic Song “Star Spangled Banner”	Lt. Zach Grant Montgomery County Sheriff’s Department
Invocation.....	The Rev. Stan Nelson Assembly of God Church

LUNCHEON

Introduction of Guests.....	Eileen McGuckian
Greetings	The Honorable Phyllis Marcuccio Mayor, City of Rockville
Awards Program Overview.....	Judy Hruz Editor, The Rockville Gazette
Introduction of Presenter	Judy Hruz
Introduction of 2011 Honorees	John Kelly, Washington Post
Presentation of Appreciation to John Kelly	Eileen McGuckian
Patriotic Song “America the Beautiful”	Lt. Zach Grant Montgomery County Sheriff’s Department
Benediction.....	The Rev. Stan Nelson

CONCLUSION

2011 Awardees

Citation for Bravery

Silver Medal & Service Bar • White, Red and Blue Stripes

Deputy Sheriff III Norman Adams .. Montgomery County Sheriff's Department
Master Firefighter James Cruzan Rockville Volunteer Fire Department
Firefighter III Eric Bernard Rockville Volunteer Fire Department

Distinguished Service Citation

Bronze Medal & Service Bar • Light Blue, Red and White Stripes

Deputy Sheriff Frank Pruitt..... Montgomery County Sheriff's Department
Deputy Sheriff Sammi Ibarra..... Montgomery County Sheriff's Department
Officer Chris Day Rockville City Police Department
Cpl. Kelly Reidy Rockville City Police Department
Cpl. Terance Thomas..... Rockville City Police Department
Officer Jamal Lewis..... Rockville City Police Department
Officer Eddie Roman Rockville City Police Department
Cpl. Heath Marshall..... Rockville City Police Department
Cpl. Chris Peck Rockville City Police Department
Cpl. Jan Seilhamer Rockville City Police Department
Cpl. Jon Berry Rockville City Police Department
Cpl. John Pfaehler..... Rockville City Police Department
Chief William Dunn Rockville Volunteer Fire Department
EMS Capt. Kathleen Dayton, Firefighter II.. Rockville Volunteer Fire Department
EMS Provider I Elliott Richardson..... Rockville Volunteer Fire Department
EMS Provider III Avital Cooperman..... Rockville Volunteer Fire Department
Firefighter II Alex Phillips..... Rockville Volunteer Fire Department
EMS candidate Nathan Orenstein Rockville Volunteer Fire Department
Firefighter/EMS candidate Tammy Farrugia... Rockville Volunteer Fire Department

Meritorious Service Citation

Service Bar • Blue and White Stripes

Theresa Broad Rockville City Police Department
Major Tim Marsh Rockville City Police Department
Jeffrey Curtis Rockville City Public Works Department
Cpl. Karl Plitt Rockville City Police Department
Cpl. Phil Lew..... Rockville City Police Department
Danielle Thomas, President..... Rockville Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary
Firefighter III/EMT Daniel Schoenfeld..... Rockville Volunteer Fire Department
EMS Capt. Kathleen Dayton..... Rockville Volunteer Fire Department

Community Service Award

Plaque of Recognition

Harry Thomas Rockville Volunteer Fire Department

Citation for Bravery

Deputy Sheriff III Norman Adams

Montgomery County Sheriff's Department

On March 14 at about 4:30 p.m., Montgomery County Deputy Sheriff III Norman Adams was driving his own vehicle on Pennsylvania Avenue when he saw two vehicles speeding during the busy Monday afternoon rush hour. It looked like one vehicle was chasing the other. Both cars went off the road onto the median, and one flipped over twice and landed on its roof as it tried to get back on the road. The driver of the Pontiac Grand Am was trapped inside the upside-down car.

By the time Deputy Adams pulled his car over to assist, the Grand Am caught on fire. Without fire-retardant clothing or even a fire extinguisher, Deputy Adams tried to pull the man from the burning vehicle. The doors were locked and only a rear window was open. Because of the driver's large build and the way he was pinned inside, Deputy Adams could not get him out of the car. Without concern for his own safety, the deputy stayed with the man until a Prince George's fire and rescue employee arrived to get the man out of the car.

Deputy Norman Adams risked his own life to save another man. He is awarded the Citation for Bravery.

Master Firefighter James Cruzan

Rockville Volunteer Fire Department

Volunteer Master Firefighter James Cruzan has given more than 14 years of service to the community with the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department. While on his way to work, Master Firefighter Cruzan saw a car that had gone off the road and down an embankment after a collision. The driver was trapped and seriously injured and fire was extending from the engine compartment into the passenger area. The car doors would not open and the man's feet were trapped in the floorboards of the burning vehicle. Fire was spreading so rapidly that he worried the man would be dead before fire and rescue crews arrived.

Cruzan directed a person at the scene to get a fire extinguisher. He used it to put out the fire at the passenger's feet while attempting to work the driver free, but the fire extinguisher quickly ran out. The intensity of the fire increased every second, putting the driver, the civilian at the scene and Cruzan in grave danger.

Cruzan and the civilian, without regard for their own safety, wrestled the driver free, saving him from certain death. By the time fire and rescue crews arrived the car was fully engulfed in flames.

Master Firefighter Cruzan had no protective gear or firefighting equipment. He offered skill, leadership and critical thinking under great pressure, all the while risking his life to protect another man. He is awarded the Citation for Bravery.

Firefighter III Eric Bernard

Rockville Volunteer Fire Department

On July 11, 2010, Firefighter Eric N. Bernard, who is also president of the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department, was driving on the inner loop of the Beltway in Virginia with his family in their minivan full of clothes and toys from a day of swimming. The family noticed an erratic car coming from behind their vehicle. The car suddenly accelerated and crossed all five lanes of the Beltway to the right shoulder, where it left the roadway at full speed and careened into a ravine full of brush and prickly bushes and overturned. A fire ignited in the engine compartment.

Bernard pulled his van onto the shoulder and ran to the site of the crash. He was wearing pool shoes, swim trunks and a T-shirt. He did not have any fire gear, safety equipment or medical supplies.

The driver was unconscious with minimal signs of life. Firefighter Bernard used his feet to break out the side passenger window to reach the trapped driver. The opening was small because the car was crushed. The large man was trapped upside down in his seat with the seat belt restricting his airway. He was not breathing and he did not respond to verbal or painful stimuli. Firefighter Bernard recognized the condition as positional asphyxia, requiring the man to be immediately removed from the seat, but he could not reach the release button for the seat belt.

After several attempts he was able to remove the belt from around the victim's throat. The man fell onto Firefighter Bernard, who had to maneuver himself and the victim in the small, damaged car so that he could assess the victim more thoroughly and treat other life-threatening conditions. At the same time, he feared the mangled car would soon be engulfed in flames. He and a civilian worked together to carefully but quickly move the victim more than 25 feet onto the roadway shoulder while constantly assessing his breathing.

Firefighter Bernard used courage, confidence and quick action to prevent a tragic ending while risking his own life. He is awarded the Citation for Bravery.

Distinguished Service Citation

Deputy Sheriff Frank Pruitt

Deputy Sheriff Sammi Ibarra

Montgomery County Sheriff's Department

Deputy Sheriff III Frank Pruitt and Deputy Sheriff III Sammi Ibarra were driving in Silver Spring to serve domestic violence orders at 8 p.m. Nov. 4, 2010, when they heard a call on the radio for an attempted robbery and attempted rape in the area. A man had approached a woman on the Silver Spring Bridge and shoved her down a hill towards the railroad tracks under the bridge. He demanded money, and said he would rape her when she said she had none. He struck her with a bottle, but she was able to take the bottle from him and cut his face. She then broke away and ran from him.

Deputies Pruitt and Ibarra saw a man that fit the description of the attacker, and the man tried to move out of the deputies' line of sight. Deputy Ibarra turned the vehicle around and the man tried to elude them. Eventually they caught him. He was charged with first-degree attempted rape, attempted armed robbery and first-degree assault.

Deputy Frank Pruitt and Deputy Sammi Ibarra are awarded the Distinguished Service Citation for their quick and decisive actions to arrest a suspect for attempted rape and attempted robbery, not knowing if he was armed with a weapon.

Officer Chris Day

Rockville City Police Department

Officer Chris Day was waiting in line to have his police cruiser washed at Flagship Car Wash on Dec. 29, 2010, when a vehicle crashed into another, pinning two employees underneath. He rushed toward the two vehicles, turning off the engine of the striking vehicle and putting it in park before crawling underneath the unstable car to tend to the medical needs of the two men.

The two men could not be removed without raising the vehicle, but Officer Day spoke with the conscious man, assuring him help was on the way and putting him at ease as much as possible. At the same time, he checked for a pulse on the unconscious man.

One of the men died, but Officer Day risked his own safety as well. He did what he could to help both men. He called for medical assistance. He controlled the scene so that it did not escalate. He did all he could to protect and preserve life at the chaotic and traumatic scene. He receives the Distinguished Service Citation.

Cpl. Kelly Reidy

Rockville City Police Department

On Sept. 16, 2010, Cpl. Kelly Reidy learned from an informant that another man was willing to sell a 9-mm handgun and a 50-caliber handgun, so he arranged to have the two meet to sell the weapons the next day. Cpl. Reidy and other city and county officers set up surveillance and watched as one man showed up to “sell” the weapons and another hid in the nearby woods. The man who showed up to sell the guns went back to a vehicle, and police stopped it before it left the area. They found the man in the woods with a hatchet tucked in his pants. Later during questioning, police learned the alleged seller was going to rob the informant and the man with the hatchet was there to act as the seller’s muscle.

One man pleaded guilty to conspiracy to rob and received a sentence of three years in jail, with 18 months suspended, and two years of probation. The other man was convicted of attempted robbery, conspiracy to rob, wearing a concealed dangerous weapon and possessing drug paraphernalia. His sentence was not available, but he had faced 10 years in jail.

Cpl. Reidy earns a Distinguished Service Citation for his diligent police work, which resulted in two men being put in jail.

Cpl. Terance Thomas,
Officer Jamal Lewis
Officer Eddie Roman
Rockville City Police Department

Cpl. Terance Thomas, Officer Jamal Lewis and Officer Eddie Roman answered a call on Oct. 2, 2010, for a violent person. They could hear screaming coming from the house when they arrived a few minutes later. A 27-year-old autistic man did not take his prescribed medicine. The man, who appeared to be over 6 feet tall and weighing about 250 pounds, was lying on the floor, screaming incoherently, and kicking and punching uncontrollably. A 4-year-old girl and two teenagers were in the living room, watching as the situation unfolded.

When two medics arrived, they told the officers that the man could not be restrained on a REAVES stretcher for fear it would cause him to stop breathing. One of the medics received permission from a doctor at Suburban Hospital to administer a dose of two powerful sedatives.

The man went inside a bathroom and continued his rage, screaming and banging on the walls, and opening the door and slamming it shut repeatedly. The officers could see damage in the bathroom from previous episodes, including a cracked sink and broken tile.

Officer Lewis enticed the man to come out of the bathroom. When he did, all of the officers were then able to take him down on his bed. A medic administered the sedatives. He was restrained and taken to Suburban Hospital with no further trouble.

Cpl. Thomas, Officer Lewis and Officer Roman showed patience, bravery and flawless execution in restraining the man without hurting him or allowing him to hurt anyone else in the house. They are awarded the Distinguished Service Citation.

Cpl. Heath Marshall

Cpl. Chris Peck

Cpl. Jan. Seilhamer

Cpl. Jon Berry

Cpl. John Pfaehler

Rockville City Police Department

On Oct. 31 at nearly 8 p.m., Cpl. Chris Peck answered a call for a suicide in progress. A man told police that his wife was having a nervous breakdown and had locked herself in the bedroom with a .357 pistol. She was threatening to kill herself. This happened at the peak time for trick-or-treaters, so there was a lot of foot traffic in the area. All of it was prevented from going past the house. Anyone inside the house was asked to leave.

The woman inside the house began speaking with Cpl. Marshall from her bedroom window. He coaxed her into going to the front door without her weapon. When he felt sure she was unarmed, he and other officers went inside the house and she was taken into custody without incident. Later, a loaded and cocked .357 handgun and two large knives were found in her bedroom.

Cpl. Heath Marshall, Cpl. Chris Peck, Cpl. Jan. Seilhamer, Cpl. Jon Berry and Cpl. John Pfaehler were praised by the woman's husband for how professionally they handled his wife without allowing her to hurt herself or anyone else. They are awarded the Distinguished Service Citation.

Chief William Dunn

Rockville Volunteer Fire Department

Volunteer Deputy Chief William Dunn lives and works in the community and has had an impact on the lives of many. As a resident of King Farm with a home office, it is not unusual for his neighbors to see the deputy chief responding to emergency calls day and night. He is frequently the first chief on the scene of major fires and accidents and has established a reputation in the fire service as a competent and decisive Incident Commander.

One such incident was on Sept. 30, 2010, when a tour bus with 14 passengers and the driver overturned on the northbound sky ramp of Interstate 270, rolling down an embankment and coming to rest on the shoulder of the interstate below. When he arrived at the scene, Chief Dunn assumed command of a complex scene that involved mass injuries, restricted access due the location and a high volume of traffic, 22 responding EMS and fire units, stabilization of the bus, and extrication and transporting of the patients.

Another example of Chief Dunn leaving his job to respond to a major incident was the accident at the Flagship Carwash on Dec. 29, 2010, where two employees were pinned underneath a vehicle. The decisions that needed to be made immediately could save or lose a life. The scene was flawlessly managed and both patients were extricated very quickly. Unfortunately, one patient succumbed to his injuries but the other survived.

The stories of how Chief Dunn responds to major and minor incidents are many. It is because of volunteer Deputy Chief William Dunn's passion for service and the dedication he has for the community where he lives that he is awarded the Distinguished Service Award.

EMS Capt. Kathleen Dayton
Firefighter II/EMS Provider I Elliott Richardson
EMS Provider III Avital Cooperman
Firefighter II Alex Phillips
EMS candidate Nathan Orenstein
Firefighter/EMS candidate Tammy Farrugia
Rockville Volunteer Fire Department

Volunteer firefighters/EMTs leave their jobs or school studies and never know what danger or challenges await them when they report for duty. On June 27, 2010, two EMS units responded to an accident on southbound Interstate 270. The crew members were EMS Captain Kathy Dayton, Firefighter II/EMS Provider I Elliott Richardson, EMS Provider III Avital Cooperman, Firefighter II Alex Phillips, EMS candidate Nathan Orenstein and Firefighter/EMS candidate Tammy Farrugia.

The call went out for an overturned SUV, with people possibly trapped and injured, between Falls and Montrose roads. When crews arrived they found an SUV on its side and all three passengers out of the vehicle. The patients were assessed and prepared for transport to Suburban Hospital in Bethesda.

As the ambulances left it was quickly learned by police on the scene that the patients in the ambulance had been transporting illegal fireworks and at least one of them was carrying a loaded hand gun. Also unknown to the ambulance crews was a threat to shoot the police and fire/rescue personnel if there was an attempt to disarm the man carrying the gun.

One ambulance had three people in the back, including the patient, and the other ambulance was packed with three EMTs and two patients. Police officers from the scene immediately gave chase on Interstate 270 and performed a full felony stop of both units. The police burst into the back of the units with hand guns drawn and shotguns pointing at the patients and the surprised and terrified crews. The police were able to apprehend the man with the gun without incident or injury to any EMTs or patients.

After the incident the crews learned of the danger and how close they were to a potentially life-threatening situation.

The volunteers understand that at anytime their life may be put in harm's way, but they continue to serve the community. They are awarded the Distinguished Service Citation.

Meritorious Service Citation

Theresa Broad

Major Tim Marsh

Rockville City Police Department

The City of Rockville Finance Department and the Fiscal Management section of the Rockville City Police Department share fiduciary responsibility of the police department's \$10 million budget. From the last half of fiscal 2008 to the completion of fiscal 2010, Theresa Broad and Major Tim Marsh shared the duties of this section.

With no previous knowledge of the budgetary process, the two set about learning and improving the departmental funds being spent. Fiscal Year 2009 ended with 92 percent of all budgeted funds being spent. Fiscal Year 2010 ended with 99.2 percent of all budgeted funds being spent. Under the guidance of Ms. Broad and Major Marsh, the categories completely under the police department's control improved from 91 percent to 100 percent.

Although not traditionally thought of as public safety skills, Ms. Broad and Major Marsh nonetheless performed duties that inspired trust. They are awarded the Meritorious Service Citation for being good stewards of the public's money.

Jeffrey Curtis

Rockville City Public Works Department

Jeffrey Curtis, an employee with the Rockville Public Works Department, was in the area of South Stonestreet and Reading avenues on Oct. 27, 2010, when he saw a person running through a resident's yard. He stopped Rockville Police Sgt. Ron Merritt and described the man and his location. City police officers were patrolling the area to find someone who had just distributed illegal drugs.

As officers stopped a suspect, the man attempted to run over a police officer, struck the police car and drove his vehicle off the road. When he could go no farther because of wooden barriers, he got out of the vehicle and ran through the neighborhood. That is when Mr. Curtis saw him. His quick thinking and ability to describe the man and his location to the police officers resulted in the man being apprehended. The man was found guilty on Feb. 18 of distribution and possession of a controlled dangerous substance, assault and battery, destruction of property and attempting to flee and elude police.

Mr. Curtis is awarded the Meritorious Service Citation for his willingness to be a good resident, despite putting himself in danger.

Cpl. Karl Plitt

Cpl. Phil Lew

Rockville City Police Department

The Rockville City Police Department's Town Center Unit of Cpl. Karl Plitt and Cpl. Phil Lew has made four felony arrests and three misdemeanor arrests based on lookouts and police information. This year alone Cpl. Plitt and Cpl. Lew already have made 20 arrests on a variety of charges.

They have made a photo album of people who were arrested or trespassed in the Town Center area.

They assisted in a search warrant related to a burglary, making the arrest and charging him with two counts of theft over \$500, theft of a motor vehicle and unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.

They charged a man with three counts of second-degree assault and two counts off fourth-degree sex offense.

Their diligence has allowed them to spot people wanted for crimes in Town Center and around the city. They are awarded the Meritorious Service Citation.

Danielle Thomas, President

Rockville Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary

A lot of attention is given to the firefighters and EMS personnel who are most visible in times of need. However, there are quiet heroes that help make everything work well but get little public recognition. The Rockville Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary has for decades supported the community directly and indirectly with its consistent and behind-the-scenes service.

The auxiliary provides vital support for all major fire and rescue operations both day and night. Many of the support operations last for many hours, such as the recent Darnestown brush fire that lasted for two days last February. Auxiliary members were on the scene of a recent fire in Gaithersburg for 14 hours.

The auxiliary also provides support for fire and rescue personnel funerals, Hometown Holidays, the Independence Day celebration, the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair, volunteer association dinners, Rockville Volunteer Fire Department monthly meeting dinners, fundraising activities and many other functions within the department.

The Rockville Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary and its members receive the Meritorious Service Award for their quiet dedication to the support of fire and rescue services and the residents of Montgomery County.

Firefighter III/EMT Daniel Schoenfeld

Rockville Volunteer Fire Department

The life of a volunteer at the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department is rewarding and demanding. All riding volunteers have a minimum standby or on-duty requirement of 600 hours per year in addition to extensive training. In 2010, department volunteers provided area residents with 124,827 hours of staffing. It is not unusual for volunteers to go well beyond the minimum and give over 1,000 hours per year.

Some go well beyond the call of duty when serving their community. The person who had the most standby hours in 2010 was Firefighter III/EMT Daniel Schoenfeld with 3,299 standby hours. Firefighter II/EMT Schoenfeld also ran the most emergency calls in 2010 with 434. He is awarded the Meritorious Service Citation.

EMS Capt. Kathleen Dayton
Rockville Volunteer Fire Department

The “Every 15 Minutes” program offers real-life experience without real-life risks. The emotionally charged program is designed to dramatically illustrate the dangerous consequences of drinking alcohol and texting while driving. The visual impact on the teenagers challenges them to think about personal safety and the responsibility of making mature decisions when lives are involved.

Each year, the program is seen by thousands of high school students in Rockville, thanks in large part to the staged “crash” put on by the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department and the Rockville City Police Department. Police and fire officials know from anecdotal research that the program has an impact. Students who were involved in the program or viewed the “crash” have returned to schools to say how the program has had a positive impact on their lives.

Volunteer EMS Capt. Dayton has been an integral part of the organization and execution of the program for seven years. She coordinates two programs a year and each takes six months of preparation. She works with the students to create the life-like scenario and coaches all of the victims, mourners and the grim reaper. She spends hours before the program applying the make-up to the victims to make injuries appear realistic. The final product is a complicated choreography of a crash, victims, lights and sirens, and extrication and rescue of the victims.

For knowing the impact that the program can have on the lives of area teenagers, EMS Capt. Kathleen Dayton is awarded the Meritorious Service Award.

Community Service

Harry Thomas

Rockville Volunteer Fire Department

Harry Thomas has been a fixture in Rockville all of his adult life. He has always been willing to help others and get involved in the community.

He joined the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department in 1971 and was an active riding member until 1985. From that point until today, he continues to be an active administrative member of the department by serving on many of the committees that support the efforts of the volunteers. His contributions are too numerous to mention.

He also served for many years with the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary, which, among other duties, supports ground operations at the scene of fire and rescue operations. He could be relied upon to leave his home at all of hours of the day or night to bring the canteen to a fire scene to provide essential food and drinks to the firefighters.

Harry Thomas may be best known to the community for his civic activism. He has been president of the Twinbrook Citizens Association, a member of the city's Traffic and Transportation Commission, and was a coach and umpire of the Rockville Baseball Association. He has also been a regular visitor to City Council meetings, where he expresses his concerns and ideas during Citizens Forum.

For all of his efforts and good works to make the community safer and stronger, Harry W. Thomas earns the 2011 Community Service Award.

